



The GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society
June 2015 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 24, Issue 6



Satellites In The Park



Pictures by K9SDR, KK4WOG, N0NCQ, K7SZ

Message from the President

Field day, field day, field day! That's the chatter on everyone's tongue as of late.



Are you ready for it? What do you plan to work? Where are you going to work from?

Well I hope you are planning on coming out to the GARS field day at Harbins Park in Dacula this year. I don't think you will find a more organized and impressive setup around. We will be running an 8A (8 Alpha) operation which means we will have 8 stations running all the primary HF bands and modes. This includes CW, SSB, digital modes, satellite, 6 meters, and more. The A-Alpha means we will be working off of portable power. In our case we there will be several generators humming throughout the day and night.

We will have a [GOTA](#) station. That's "Get On The Air" for anyone to use even if you don't have a license. Each of these stations will be working to accumulate points. Digital modes and CW contacts count for 2 points each and we also gather extra points for special things like media publicity, alternate power such as solar, and so on. If you want to know more about the rules but were afraid to ask Google "ARRL Field Day 2015 Rules" for the official rules document.

We just executed a successful "Satellites in the Park" event on May 23rd. This too can be counted as "just practice" for Field Day operations! We successfully made one contact and again learned valuable lessons to help make the next time more successful. There were more than 30 attendees and as usual a great time was had both technically and socially.



One event that always marks the coming of Field Day is the Dacula Memorial



Day Parade.

Once again the GARS team shows up in record numbers to help make the parade run more smoothly than ever. I want to personally thank everyone that came out and helped. GARS has made a name for itself with this event and I would not be surprised if we don't

start getting calls from other parade planners wanting our help!

This summer is cranking up to be another great one for our organization. I'm looking forward to seeing you all at Field Day. Rosters are already appearing for sign-ups. Keep an ear out on the GARS Yahoo reflector for more information as well as the [GARS.org](#) home page. Ask



friends and family to come out for a visit. It's a great way to introduce someone to many of the different facets of the hobby. They can work the [GOTA](#) station. And remember to stress that this exercise is primarily designed to practice our deployment skills in an emergency situation. We all hope we are never called out for a disaster but we all need to be prepared. You know what they say: "When all else fails..." .

73s,

Rick, N4XYY

"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."

[Author Unknown]

GARS June Meeting

“Prepping For Field Day 2015” *and Ice Cream Social* By David Adcock, KA4KKF

*Tuesday June 9, 2015
Come Early - 6:30 pm - Bring your brown bag dinner!*

Harbins Park, 2995 Luke Edwards Road, Dacula, GA
For directions, see page 18

See Page 17 for July Meeting Info

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GARS Communications

<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.075(+ MHz 82.5 PL Tone	<u>2 Meter Repeater</u> 147.255(+ MHz 107.2 PL Tone
<u>APRS</u> 144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR	<u>6 Meter Repeater</u> 53.110 (-1 MHz) No PL tone
<u>D-Star</u> WD4STR 145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)	<u>70 Cm Repeaters</u> 444.525(+ MHz 82.5 PL Tone 442.100(+) 100 PL Tone
Main Repeater Site Oak Street, Lawrenceville	Backup Repeater Site Lanier Mountain, Snellville

**Don't forget
to support our
advertisers at the
back of the
GARzette.**

The GARzette is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The GARzette articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN
770-689-6620 or editor@gars.org



May Madness 2015

(A contest for GARS members only)

This year's **May Madness** contest ended May 17th and many more GARS members participated this year than in years past. Those who haven't turned in their logs are running out of time to do so since the **winners will be announced at the June meeting**. Turn in a log and you are guaranteed a prize. Send them to [AF4FG @arrl.net](mailto:AF4FG@arrl.net) and be sure to come to the June meeting to see who won.

Earl Whatley, AF4FG (Event Chairperson)

Fly a Ford

(TRI MOTOR FLY IN 5-9-15)

I sat in the cockpit but I didn't fly, however, several GARS members did and all said it was great. The plane was a 1928 Ford Tri Motor and it was at the Gwinnett airport for 3 days in May. For two of those days GARS operated a special event station using the call sign of the Experiential Aircraft Association chapter 690 (EAA 690), W4LZU. LZU is the morse designation for Briscoe Field and W4LZU is the call sign of EAA 690. We set up a station on the tarmac beside the EAA and right in front of the plane. Using a vertical antenna we made 250 contacts all over North America. Some we contacted had flown on this plane but most had only seen such a plane in the movies.

When giving his preflight instructions, the pilot noted that a polar expedition purchased a German Tri Motor for use in Antarctica and parked it in Detroit for eight days prior to their departure. Tongue firmly in cheek, he said he was sure that even though Ford had more than 100 engineers in the hanger with the plane they surely didn't copy anything when they developed this one. The fact that the German plane had the wing mounted below the fuselage and the Ford had the wing on top was evidence of this.

The plane's interior was opulent. Wall sconces for lighting, curtains on the windows and somewhat comfortable seats are items that could never be installed in a modern plane but this was the norm for luxury air travel in the 20s and 30s. When its passenger service was done the plane was sold and used in Central and South America for many years before coming back to this country and undergoing a full restoration. Now it flies around the country for exhibitions such as this one.

If you didn't get to come you missed a treat. Many of those listed below operated the station and several flew in one of the 20 minute flights. One of our members made four 2 meter contacts while in flight. If you worked W4LZU you can get a QSL card from EAA 690.

Thanks to all who came by to help!

Earl Whatley, AF4FG

Event Chairperson



RALPH	KJ4CNC	NICK	AB4CQ	JOHN	N4JCH
JOHN	WB4QDX	NICK	N0NCQ	RICK	N4XYY
GREGG	KK4GWG	JEFF	AB4HF	RYAN	KI4CSM
NEAL	W4HNG	DON	KW4AL	CHUCK	KK4TKJ
RICH	K4KME	KEVIN	KK4WOG	PAM	KM4JKN
BARRY	W4BWE	CHRIS	K4HF	JOE	AD4PZ
RAY	N4GYN	STEVEN	N4STR	EARL	AF4FG
DOUG	KB6RRX	BILL	WB4WTN		

Memorial Day Parade 2015

The parade this year was impressive, not only for the parade itself, but for the way GARS handled it. The parade organizer, Marvin Atherton (KG4FHB), made sure people knew that the parade is about remembering and honoring veterans and not just having a day off from work. There were more military vehicles this year than ever; so many that the Scouts, who usually form up in the red area, had to be moved to the blue area to make room. At exactly 10 AM, a C-130 flew over the parade route at 200 feet above the ground! Then he came back and made a 90 degree turn right over the parking lot where we were waiting to move.

Forty three members including many new hams helped get 2500 participants lined up and on their way. It was a demanding job and GARS performed it well. We received a lot of compliments and thanks from participants, politicians and the parade founder whose comments are below. Once again, GARS did a great job. Be sure to thank all who helped.

From the parade founder:

"Thanks for your continued support of the staging and line up of the Dacula Memorial Day parade. Without the many GARS members who volunteer each year, this parade would not be possible. You all do a super job year after year and are very much appreciated more than I can express with words."

Thank you for taking time out of your holiday to help honor our fallen soldiers on Memorial Day in Dacula.

Again, thank you so very much! GREAT JOB again this year! See you next year!

DAVID	KA4KKF	PAM	KM4JKN	LEE	KT4LS
RALPH	KI4CNC	STEVEN	N4STR	CHUCK	KK4TKJ
MIKE	N4MEP	JOE	AD4PZ	RANDY	N4COR
STEVE	WB2OGY	DON	KW4AL	RICK	N4XYY
NICK	AB4CQ	ANDY	KM4HIH	VADEN	NN4K
CHARLIE	K4YDB	PORTER	KM4JXI	JEFF	AB4HF
MITCH	N0DIM	EMILY	KM4JXB	MIKE	ND4V
NEAL	W4HNG	STEVE	KM4CVU	DOZER	WA4DEO
KEVIN	KK4WOG	DAVID	KJ4CMY	DOUG	KB6RRX
DAVE	W4DTR	SARAH	KK4WEM	RICH	KK4MNU
BILL	WB4WTN	CHRIS	K4HF	RICK	K4KME
SID	N4NQ	ANDRE	W7ALS	JUAN	KM4EAM
KYLE	W4KDA	ALLISON	KZ3JFY	EARL	AG4FG
KAREN	KI4HPP	RYAN	KJ4DRN		
EMORY	ALBRITON	JUAN	KM4EAM		

Regards,
Marvin Atherton, KG4FHB
Founder, Memorial Day in Dacula"

73, Earl Whatley, AF4FG



Satellites In The Park

Hal, et.al:

5/23/15

Thanks for a great time at Bogan Park this afternoon. The shortage of working satellites notwithstanding, I was impressed with your ground station including your AZ-EL rotator/antenna system. Way back in the early to mid 1990s I was heavily involved with LEO satellites. In the intervening years things have really changed: Radios got "smarter" and more compact, operator's skill sets have evolved and, while SATCOM has certainly become more user friendly, it still requires a high degree of motivation and a rather steep learning curve in order to become really successful communicating through the satellites.

It is through "Satellites in the Park" and other club activities that GARS received Club of the Year at Dayton! Kudos to all involved with organizing club activities like this one.

Very 73,

Rich Arland K7SZ WPE7BYR
Bent Dipole Ranch, Dacula, GA



STEM Day at Mason Elementary

Mason Elementary Stem Day, May 8, 2015

I was walking towards the front of the school a little before 7:00a, when I met Shay Buchanan, Science Specialist and our host for STEM Day. She asked if I was excited about sharing our hobby with one hundred and eighty 5th graders? I told her that I couldn't tell if I was excited or terrified. So began GARS first attempt at expanding our hobby by supporting the school system's STEM program.



STEM Day at Mason Elementary was a whole day affair, across all the grades. Each grade had an organization presenting a program advancing science, technology, engineering or math (STEM). We were assigned the fifth grade. Working with Martha Muir, ARRL Youth Rep and teacher at Mill Springs Academy in Alpharetta, we tried to determine what aspects of amateur radio would be able to hold the interests of the 5th graders. We were also somewhat limited by time constraints. The 180 students were split into groups of 30, and we would have each group for about 50 minutes. Our agenda started with a brief introduction and description of amateur radio, followed by a video of the Mill Springs Academy students talking to the space station (ISS). Each group was then split into three smaller groups for demos on CW, PSK31 and 2M voice.

About a week in advance of the big day we made a scouting mission to the school to determine the best classroom to use that had outside access for the 2M and 20M antennas. A few days before the event we went to the school and launched a 20M dipole into the trees and tested 2M simplex vs. duplex (repeater).



On the day of the event we set up a CW demo that allowed the kids to send their name via Morse code. If we were able to guess their name, they were awarded a star emblazoned certificate. PSK31 was chosen for the demo because it closely resembles "texting." Even though propagation wasn't the best, many DX stations and states were logged. At the 2M voice station, the kids were able to speak over the radio to club operators we had standing by to answer questions.

To say that our efforts were successful would be an understatement. By lunch time the "buzz" around the school was that we were the "rock stars" of STEM Day. In fact, it was going so well that county administrators were invited in to see what we were doing. By the end of the day, I believe we all felt the conflicting feelings of exhaustion with exhilaration about meeting all of our objectives. Whatever you call it, it was a feeling we'd love to experience again.

There were many people who helped with this event, but I would like to give special thanks to the following:



On the front lines: Rich Atkin, KJ4ZTY, for making the initial arrangements and acting as traffic cop during the sessions. Paul Kelley, W4KLY, CW operator extraordinaire. Ray Bailey, N4GYN, for showing the kids that you don't need a cell phone to do texting.

Behind the lines: Dave Bruse, W4DTR; Mike Weathers, ND4V; and Sid Weaver, N4NQ; who were standing by to answer some great questions from the students on 2M. And, Martha Muir, ARRL Section Youth Coordinator, for her guidance and suggestions.

Last, but not least, we would all like to thank the staff and students of Mason Elementary who made us feel at home. The students were very respectful, courteous and attentive. We couldn't have asked for a better group of students to work with. The staff was spectacular. They kept shuttling food and water back to our classroom to assure that we were well fed, hydrated and had everything we needed.

Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC

Education Chairman

SOTA - Summits On The Air

REASONS TO LEARN CW

CW Brings Certain Advantages to SOTA

You can be a fine SOTA operator using voice modes and you can achieve [Mountain Goat](#) or [Shack Sloth](#) status using SSB or FM. Shucks, you could succeed using RTTY or JT65 if you were determined, but SOTA has some powerful motivators for learning CW.

Chasers

You can work CW-only activators.

As a chaser, you have all the equipment in your shack at your disposal. The activators have only what they carry. Many activators do not carry a microphone. (Some activators entire go-kit weighs less than 2 pounds!) You aren't going to work these activators on SSB.

You can work some of them using your computer to recognize/send CW. (CW *is* just a digital mode which can be digitized by the operator.) Some decoders are pretty good, but when the activator's signal is too weak for software decoding, you'll miss out. Signal strength can be an issue, particularly for DX, but some lightweight trail radios send at about 3 watts.

If you're working toward your Shack Sloth award, you'll want to be able to work both CW and SSB activations, in order to get your award faster.

Activators and Spotting

One of the coolest pieces of software on Earth is [RBNGate](#). RBNGate is available solely to CW operators. RBNGate will hear you calling CQ and it will post a spot to SOTAWatch on your behalf.

As a reminder, you do not have to be spotted in order to activate a summit. All you have to do to earn your points is to work 4 hams who are not on the hill with you. However, you can get your contacts easier and have the fun of working the pile-up if you get spotted.

RBNGate joins two other marvelous pieces of software -- [RBN](#) and [SOTAWatch](#). RBN (Reverse Beacon Network) is out there, day in and day out, spotting CW CQs. SOTA chasers are posting spots for SOTA activators to SOTAWatch. SOTA activators post *alerts*, stating when they intend to activate, to SOTAWatch. What RBNGate does is to take RBN spots, match them up with SOTA alerts, and when they match, it posts a spot to SOTAWatch.

What this means is that all you have to do once you are set up on a summit is to start calling CQ via CW, and about a minute later you have a pile-up.

There are other ways to get spotted.

You can call CQ until a chaser happens across you and spots you on SOTAWatch.

You can [spot yourself via a SMS text message](#) (if you have cell service from the top of the mountain). You can [spot yourself via APRS](#) (if you have line of site to an APRS station).

But with RBNGate, you just sit down, start calling CQ using CW, and you get spotted. Very cool.

Radios

I love my KX3. The Yaesu FT-817 has many fans. KD1JV's [Mountain Topper](#) (a.k.a. Mountain Top Radio or MTR) series of radios are absolute brilliance. Roughly the size of an Altoid tin (some models are double-size), weighing approximately 1/4 pound, runnable from a single 9-volt battery, they are the paragon of what you want to carry when you're hiking up the side of a mountain. (i.e. Almost nothing.)



(Continued on page 9)

SOTA - Continued

(Continued from page 8)

If configured correctly, and your default frequency is free, all you do is plug in your battery, paddle, antenna and earbuds and start calling. Volume level is automatic. Most models don't even have a power switch. Just plug and call.

Some hams adapt their MTR with a built-in touch paddle, for one less thing to carry and one less thing to plug in.

It only supports CW. Shortly after I started activating, I bought one of these and put it on a shelf at eye level in my shack, to motivate me to practice CW.

The Usual

As CW fans will tell you, CW gets through when voice can't:

When the signal is faint, CW is more likely to get through. When you're operating next to a mountain-top cell tower and QRM is at S8, CW is more likely to get through.

CW doesn't have a foreign accent you can't understand.

When there's an SSB contest and the voice frequencies are full, you can move down to CW and find a space to operate.

Crusty old CW operators from back when CW was required in order to get your license would sometimes complain that the no-code license spoiled ham radio. SOTA is an example of how the no-code license works well. You get on the air with SSB; you are active with SSB; then you notice advantages of learning CW. Instead of learning it to get your ticket and forgetting it, you learn it because you want to, and you keep using it because it brings you benefits you want.

CW isn't necessary for SOTA. There are many successful activators and chasers who don't use it. There are Mountain Goats who got there without a single CW QSO. But CW brings some mighty fine advantages.

Disclaimer: I am *not* a CW hotshot. I can manage a slow exchange of call signs and RST from a summit... most of the time.

See you on the summits!

73 DE K4KPK / *Kevin*

Where can I find out more?

Official site: <http://sotadata.org.uk/>

Mailing list: <https://groups.yahoo.com/groups/summits>

K4KPK's site: <http://k4kpk.com/content/sota-menu>

Email me (K4KPK). My email address is available via <http://www.qrz.com/db/K4KPK>.

Bio

K4KPK, Kevin Kleinfelter is Georgia's first SOTA Mountain Goat. His first QSO (ever) was on a backpacking trip to a 5300' summit. He has completed more than 140 activations.

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Summits On The Air

Beginner's Corner

Come to Field Day

Field Day is the biggest event in the ham radio calendar, and it is a perfect venue for new hams. Here are several reasons why every new ham (and old hams, too) should come to the GARS Field Day:

- ◆ **It is the perfect time for new hams to get on the air.** Most new hams have a Technician license and are limited to what HF frequencies they can use. Many new hams do not even have HF equipment. At Field Day, there are control operators coming out of the woodwork. You will also be assigned an Elmer (mentor) who will help you get on the air.
- ◆ **You can try** several HF and VHF bands to see what they are like.
- ◆ **You can see (and work) a number of HF and VHF transceivers to see what they are like.** There are always several different rigs for people to try. You can ask questions and find out what rig might be good for you when you are ready to purchase one.
- ◆ **The food!** We have breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a midnight snack. The food is always good.
- ◆ **The camaraderie with fellow hams.** Field Day is more than just a time to operate radios. It is a 24 hour plus opportunity to be with people who share the same passion that you do.
- ◆ **GARS operates 8A,** which means we have eight stations on the air and we are not dependent on the electrical grid for power. We generate our own electricity. I have been going to Field Day for several years and have never come across any other contact that is 8A. GARS is where it's at. It's no wonder we were recognized as last year's "Club of the Year" at Dayton Hamvention!
- ◆ **If you arrive early on Saturday, you will be able to help set up the antennas.** It is amazing to watch how effortlessly they go up. You will be able to see a number of different antenna launchers. It will give you an idea of what you might want for an antenna launcher of your own. It could also give you some pointers on how you might want to set up your own antenna.
- ◆ **We do satellite QSOs** (contacts), or at least try to. Contacting hams by satellite is another fascinating aspect of amateur radio. You just don't know who will be on the air. It is a great way to "DX" (long distant contacting) with other stations.
- ◆ **We do digital.** We connect computers to radios and talk to other stations. This is another fascinating aspect of amateur radio.
- ◆ **Did I mention the food?** The food is very good, and by the way, it is free! (Donations are accepted, and appreciated.)

As I write this, I am getting even more excited about Field Day. Come on out to Harbins Park. [See map on page 19] We start about 8 am on Saturday and tear down after 2 pm on Sunday. This is a family event. All are welcome. See you there!

73,

David - KJ4CMY

Historical Information

First Wireless Message on the West Coast

Here's an interesting story that I hope you will enjoy. This was condensed from an article published in *The Old Timer's Bulletin*, the official journal of the Antique Wireless Association February 2000. The article was written by Paul Joseph Bourbin.

The place was San Francisco and the time was August 1899. Following their involvement in the Spanish American War, California's First Volunteer Regiment of soldiers was returning from the Philippine Islands aboard the troop ship *Sherman*. The city leaders in San Francisco wanted to have a celebration for the troops upon their arrival in San Francisco, but at that time there was no communication between the ship and land once the ship went over the horizon. Telegraph communications via under sea cable was able to send a message to San Francisco when the ship left the Philippines, but nothing further would be known until the ship was seen approaching the Golden Gate leading into San Francisco Bay. This was complicated further because in August, when the ship was expected to arrive, the area around the Golden Gate is more often than not obscured by dense fog. The concern was that if the *Sherman* wasn't seen until it reached the Golden Gate there would not be adequate time for preparation for the celebration. What could be done?

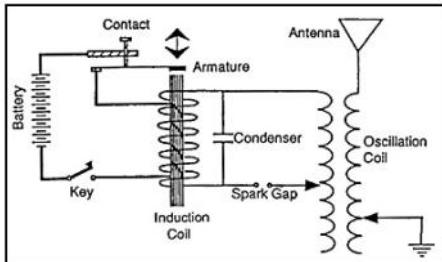
The lightship *San Francisco* was anchored nine miles outside the Golden Gate and the *Sherman* would pass within sight of the lightship on its way towards port. If there were some way to get a message from the lightship into the city when the *Sherman* was spotted, there would be plenty of time to get everything ready for the celebration. George Otis Mitchell, a physics teacher at Girl's High School had been experimenting with wireless telegraphy. He thought that if they put a wireless transmitter on board the lightship that a message could be transmitted to the city when the *Sherman* was spotted. So some experimenting was in order. A "spark" transmitter using a Tesla Coil was put into service but there were problems on the receiving end in the city environment due to static interference from electrical trolley cars. The receiver was relocated away from the city to the cliffs overlooking the Pacific Ocean and the problem was solved. From here any message received could be relayed into the city via "landline."

A spark transmitter was installed on the lightship *San Francisco* and the waiting began. On August 23 at around 5:00pm a message was sent from the lightship "SHERMAN IS SIGHTED". There was only a transmitter on board the lightship so there was no way to know or verify that the message had been received on the other end. Fortunately, it was received and printed out in code on a Morse "inker" at the receiver on the Pacific cliffs. The City of San Francisco welcomed her heroes and the celebration continued for three days.

According to the article by Mr. Bourbin, three separate wireless transmission events occurred in the US about the same time in 1899, but the evidence suggests that the transmission from the San Francisco on August 23 was the first wireless transmission in the US and perhaps the first in the Western Hemisphere.

Submitted by: *Paul Kelly*, W4KLY

For more pictures of a spark gap transmitter, click [here](#). [..Ed.]



What's Happening?

AREA HAMFEST CALENDAR

Please visit and support these local hamfests!

(NOTE: Hamfests listed here are in a 3 hour travel time from Athens TN)

NOTE: Dates highlighted in YELLOW are the last date the hamfest was held or an unconfirmed date!

Check with hamfest sponsors before traveling if the date is in Yellow.

6-Jun-15	Atlanta, GA	146.820(-) PL 146.2	http://www.atlantahamfest.org/
13-Jun-15	Knoxville, TN	147.300, 224.500 & 444.575	http://www.w4bbb.org/
18-Jul-15	McMinn Co, TN (Athens)	147.060(-)141.3	http://www.mcminnarc.com/fest/fest.html
25-Jul-15	Cullman, AL	145.310(-)	http://cullmanarc.webs.com/
26-Jul-14	Waynesville, NC	146.910 (-) 91.5, Asheville 147.390 (-) 94.8 tone, Lake Junaluska	http://www.wcars.org/hamfest.html NOTE: We received a flyer with correct date.
Aug 15-16, 2015	Huntsville, AL	146.94	http://www.hamfest.or
23-Aug-14	Cedars of Lebanon, TN	146.910 (-)	http://www.smrclub.com/
Sept. 12, 2015	Dalton / Varnell, GA (Prater's Mill)	147.135(+)141.3	http://w4drc.webstarts.com/
Sept. 13, 2014	Dallas, Ga	146.895 + PL 77.0	http://www.pauldingarc.com/
Sept. 12, 2015	Gadsden, AL	147.160(+) 100.0	http://GARC.org
20-Sep-14	Sweetwater, TN	145.250 (-) 100.0	Virgil W4OLJ (423)404-8000 http://www.w4yj.com/
NO FEST 2014	Sevierville, TN (Ten Tec Hamfest)	145.470, 146.940, 443.225	http://www.tentec.com (NO HAMFEST 2014, see website)
Sept 25-26, 2015	SEDCO DX Convention (NOTE: If you plan to attend SEDCO, register early!)		http://www.w4dxcc.com/
11-Oct-14	Lagrange, GA	146.700(-)141.3	http://www.lagrangeradioclub.org/index.php
19-Oct-14	Rome, GA	146.940 (-) 88.5	http://www.w4vo.org/ or 706 766-1118
17-Oct-15	Greenville, TN	145.390 minus 186.2 tone	http://www.greenevillehamfest.com/
31-Oct-15	Chattanooga, TN	146.79	http://www.w4am.org
Nov 7-8, 2015	Lawrenceville, GA	146.82 (PL 107.2)	http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com/

GARS Membership Page

New GARS Members in May

Jean Delashmit (KM4FVO)
Kathleen Fallin (KM4KNV)
Leland Ford (K9SDR)
Juanita Koon (KM4KAC)
Sterling Peet ()
Michael Pendergrass (KM4JKO)
James Perry (KM4JKQ)
Matthew Thiry (KM4KAE)
Juan Villa (KM4EAM)
Brian Walton ()

New Members: 10

Total Members as of June 1, 2015
- 292-

Join us for our weekly
breakfast gathering at
7:30 AM most Saturdays

at

Golden Corral
2155 Riverside Parkway
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

[\(Directions\)](#)

The following members are
celebrating birthdays
in June:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at GARS

John Ackermann (N8UR)
Hope Collier
John Davis (WB4QDX)
JOHN EASTWOOD (KM4HIE)
Christopher Fowler (K4FH)
Jim Gaffney (K4YNA)
Sarah Harden (KK4WEM)
James Hinkle (AG4ON)
Ralph Matchette (KE4IHD)
Brian Page (N4TRB)
Robert Pence (KM4AAP)
Michael Pendergrass (KM4JKO)
Dee Perry (KM4JKP)
Gillian Reid (KM4DEY)
Charles Roberts (K4HFO)
Ron Rogers (WW8RR)
Royce Stovall (KD4EXY)
Bill Van Duynhoven (KE4TVA)

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter email
towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),
please email the Membership Committee - membership@gars.org

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP
Committee Members: Richard Atkin, KJ4ZTY

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS YOUR HELP

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. We need weekly participation to make our net function and to keep them interesting. We have a very small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week but we need more help.

Out of over 299 members we have only nine primary people that run the net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Mitch - N0DIM
Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL
Ray - N4GYN	Sandy - KJ4DRO
John - WB4QDX	Bill - KK4AUA
Kevin - KK4WOG	

I need 40 people to fill NCS and ANCS positions. The schedule is planned and posted months in advance and is flexible. If your plans change we can and do make adjustments to make it work, and I make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. I also send out reminders each week to let you know you are scheduled for the next Monday night net. In short, we make it simple. All you need to do is show up, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record-keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at the monthly GARS meeting or, send me a message via the [Mentors & Elmers](#) page on the web site at www.gars.org. Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73' See you on the Nets!

Phil McCleary, N4LNE

Net Manager



**Don't miss the "KNOW IT ALL" Net
Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm**



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

Jeff—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 +, PL 82.5

6m 53.110 - No Tone

70cm 442.100 + PL 100.0

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<

June

13-15 [June VHF](#)
20 [Kids Day](#)
27-28 [Field Day](#)

July

11-12 [IARU HF World CHampionship](#)

August

1-2 [August UHF](#)
15-16 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

JUNE VHF:

[Mission & Objective-](#)

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada.

Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

KIDS DAY:

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grand-kids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public!

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

AUGUST UHF:

Objective: To work as many amateur stations in as many 2 degrees by 1 degrees grid squares as possible using authorized amateur frequencies above 222 MHz and all authorized modes of emission.

10 GHz & Up - Round 1:

The **Objective** of 10 GHz and Up is for North American amateurs work as many amateur stations in as many different locations as possible in North America on bands from 10-GHz through Light. Amateurs are encouraged to operate from more than one location during this event. See the detailed rules for restrictions.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Southeast US

06/06/2015 | [Georgia State Convention \(Atlanta Hamfestival\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA
Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval
Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club & Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.atlantaHamfest.com>

07/25/2015 | [Cullman ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Cullman, AL
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club
Website: <https://www.facebook.com/CullmanARC>

07/25/2015 | [Byron Tailgate](#)

Location: Byron, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Central Georgia ARC
Website: <http://www.wa4ort.com>
[Learn More](#)

09/12/2015 | [Hamfest Augusta](#)

Location: Grovetown, GA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Amateur Radio Club of Augusta
Website: <http://www.facebook.com/hamfestaugusta>

11/07/2015 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Stone Mountain Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club
Website: <http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com>

BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,
Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

Steve Back, WB2OGY

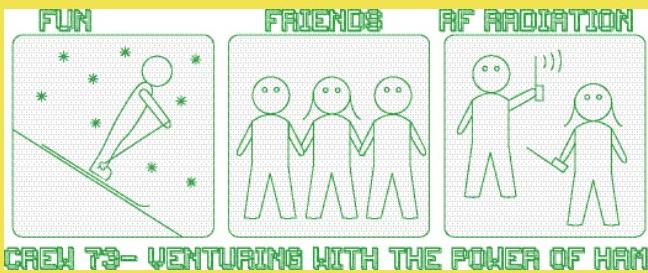
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman
Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: committeechair@venturecrew73.org

Jeff Lee, AF4JL

Venture Crew 73 Advisor
Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: advisor@venturecrew73.org



G A R S Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYY
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V
Vice President



Nick Doemland, AB4CQ
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ
Treasurer



Nick Nikley, N0NCQ
Program Manager



Karen Albritton KI4HPP
Membership Chair



Dave Bruse, W4DTR
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF
Webmaster, Field Day Chair



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ
Public Information Officer



Ralph Pickwick KJ4CNC
TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr



Ray Bailey, N4GYN
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins AB4HF
Multimedia Chair



John Ackermann, N8UR
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM
Repeater Chair



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
Education Chair



Mike Weathers, ND4V
WAS-Checker, Historian



Phil McCleary, N4LNE
Net Manager, ELMER Chair



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI
Technical Advisor



DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton W4KDA



David Adcock KA4KKF



Norm Schklar WA4ZXV



EXTRA! EXTRA!

JULY MEETING

"DX Vacations"

By TBD

A Personal Note:

I want to thank all my Amateur Radio friends for the many comments, cards, donations and prayers for my family over the last couple of months. It has been trying times and Susie has taken her place among many friends and family in another life. My son has returned to Denver with my grandson and my daughter will be with me for a few weeks.

I expect to return to my new normal life in a very short while.

Again, thanks for the great support.

73

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV

GARS Recurring Calendar

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net + 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

MEETING MINUTES

Rick, N4YXX, called the meeting to order at 7pm

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades were recognized.

NOTE: 74 attendee's were present

General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 290 members

Nick, N0NCQ, announced upcoming programs, Ice Cream Social @ Harbins Park on June 9th.

Repeater Update: A decision was made to relocate the 147.075 repeater to Snellville. The current plan is remove the remaining equipment, antenna and hardline from the water tower site on Saturday, June 13th. Volunteers are needed for a ground crew to assist with removal of the hardline. APRS and 6 meter services will be restored sometime in August.

Upcoming Events

Satellites in the Park

Date: May 23rd
Time: 1:30pm to 5:30pm

Location: Bogan Park, 2723 North Bogan Park Road, Buford

Dacula Memorial Day Parade

Date: May 25th
Time: 7:00am to 12:00pm,
Location: Herbon Baptist Church, 202 Hebron Church Road, Dacula

US & Canada Field Day

Date: June 26th and 27th
Location: Harbins Park, 2995 Luke Edwards Road, Dacula

Please visit the GARS website at www.gars.org for more details on these and other events

Past Events

Ford Tri-Motor: GARS operated a Special Events station at Briscoe Field for the EAA-690 group on May 9th & 10th and recorded an amazing 250 QSO's. Check the GARS reflector for access to some amazing YouTube video's captured by Garzett Editor, Ray Bailey, N4GYN.

Crazy Fox Hunt: Kyle provided a recap of the day's activities in which over 30 GARS members participated. Amy, KE4IKF and Ed, WA4YIH were the first to locate the Fox. Check the GARS Facebook page for photo's.

Break

Program

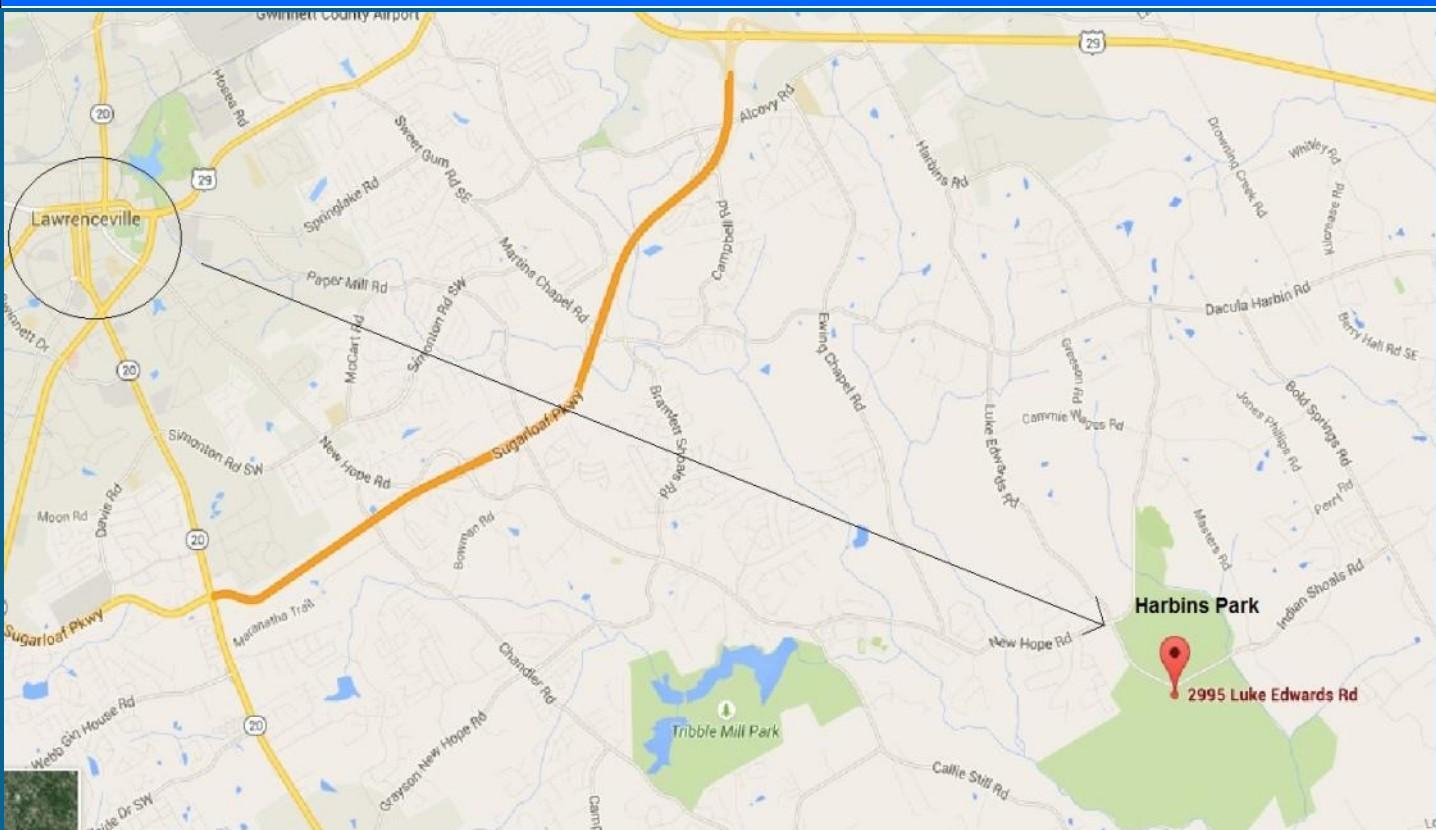
David Adcock, KA4KKF provided an overview of Field Day. GARS will be operating as 8A consisting of 2 - CW, 2 - Digital and 4 - SSB stations. Logging stations were setup to provide the membership the ability to become familiar with the software prior to Field Day.

Raffle

Meeting concluded at pm

Nick, AB4CQ, Secretary

June Meeting Location



GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	2 6:30 - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	3 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	4	5	6
7	8 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	9 Bring Brown Bag Dinner to Harbins Park 7:00-9:00pm GARS Meeting	10 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	11	12	13 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
14 GARS VE Team Monthly Testing Session	15 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	16	17 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	18	19	20 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
21	22 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	23	24 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	25	26	27 FIELD DAY 2015
28 FIELD DAY 2015	29 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	30				

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) VEC: WCARS Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p>Second Saturday 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 Email: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p>(cont. next column)</p>	<p>We had a nice turnout Sunday, May 10, for our VE session.</p> <p>Eight people tested and passed exams:</p> <p>3 - New Technicians 2 - New Generals 2 - Upgraded to General 1 - Upgraded to Extra</p> <p><u>Thanks to the following VE's:</u></p> <p>Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC (Co-CVE) Don Bagby, KK4NJM (Co-CVE) Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE) David Bruse, W4DTR (CVE) Frank Haynes, KV4SP Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN Nicholas Doemland, AB4CQ Charles McCord, KK4TKJ</p> <p>73,</p> <p><i>Mark Fehlig</i> Co-CVE WA6NGC GARS VE Team Leader Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>GARS VE Website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p>First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-) For more, go to: http://www.gars.org/</p>

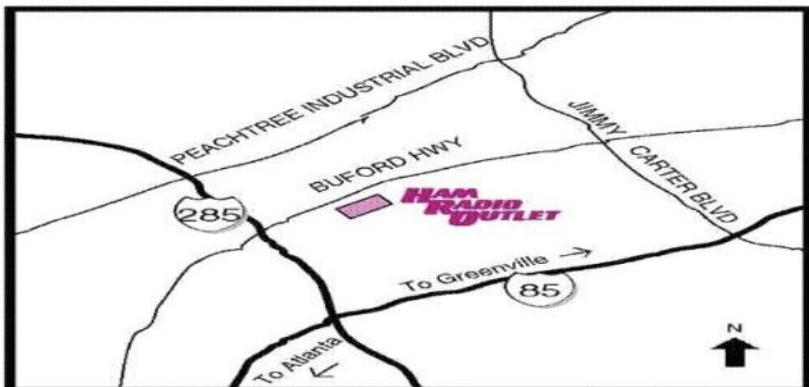
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